



December 2008
Special Edition
Photo Newsletter

ACAPAA bids farewell to a special friend

After six years of public service, Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood is term limited



Left: State Rep. Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D-22) with ACAPAA Chair Dr. H. Sook Wilkinson and Michigan Dept. of Civil Rights Director Linda V. Parker. **Right:** Hopgood with Governor Granholm as he signs HB 4207, Hopgood presenting an award at the 2008 Asian Heritage Month Celebration.



On Friday, December 5th, members from across the Michigan Asian Pacific American community came together at the New Seoul Garden restaurant in Southfield to honor State Rep. Hoon-Yung Hopgood of Taylor, for his years of service to his district and dedication to the Asian community of Michigan.

Rep. Hopgood has played an instrumental role on a number of matters that deeply impact APA in Michigan. This includes being a co-sponsor of the annual celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month at the state Capitol Rotunda in Lansing. He also advocated for the expansion of early education for Michigan children and took the lead on advancing a bill that would establish a legislatively mandated Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs.

Northern Michigan University Meeting

Marquette, Michigan
September 2008



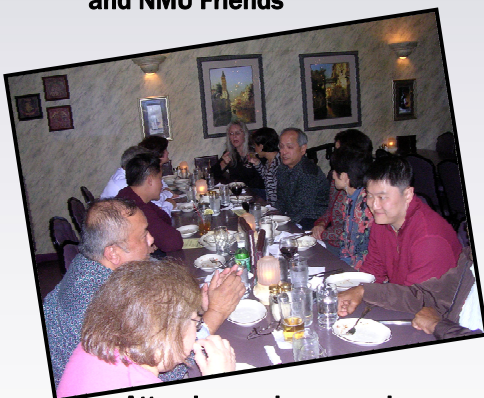
A beautiful view of Marquette



**Native American
traditional dancers
perform for ACAPAA
members**



**Wilkinson with ACAPAA members
and NMU Friends**



Attendees enjoy a meal



ACAPAA Members and MDCR Staff

For the first time in history ACAPAA held a meeting in the Upper Peninsula at Northern Michigan University. It was an opportunity for the council to reach out the Asian Pacific American community in that region and assess their quality of life. NMU's President Leslie E. Wong hosted the town hall style meeting.



**ACAPAA member Peter Wong
shares his thoughts**

ACAPAA MEETS

at the

International Institute

March 2008

ACAPAA members and guests met in March at the International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit (IIMD), for a special meeting. Dr. H. Sook Wilkinson, presided. The meeting included a keynote speech by Rep. Hoon-Yung Hopgood (D), District 22 and “Leadership Best Practices” presentations by Ms. Yuliya Gayadenko of Jewish Community Services of Flint, Ms. Maha Freij of ACCESS and Mr. Peter Wong of the Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce.

Presentations were followed by a group dialogue on leadership best practices for organizations. Mr. Tony Wong of The Arc Michigan spoke to the Council and the audience about the Michigan Developmental Disability Council and its diversity and inclusion initiatives.



Rep. Hoon-Yung Hopgood and Dr. H. Sook Wilkinson



ACAPAA panel discussion on best practices



ACAPAA members and MDCR Director Linda V. Parker joined by special guests.



Dr. H. Sook Wilkinson leading a brainstorming session

Asian Leadership Summit VI

East Lansing, Michigan

September 2008



Summit attendees gathering information



Dr. H. Sook Wilkinson presenting at the Asian Leadership Summit



Attendees mingle

ACAPAA collaborated with The Council of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA) and other Michigan Asian Pacific American groups to hold its first statewide APA Leadership Summit VI.

This year's summit was historic as CAPA is expanded the scope of the event to address the needs of the APA community in Michigan statewide. Previous CAPA leadership summits have been exclusive to the Metropolitan Detroit area.

The event featured several workshops and forums on economic growth, healthcare access, justice, civil rights and voter empowerment for Asian Americans.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Celebration

May 2008
Capitol Rotunda
Lansing, Michigan



Hmong dancers add to the cultural festivities



MDCR Director Linda V. Parker addresses the crowd



ACAPAA honors distinguished veteran
APA's in the community



Dr. H. Sook Wilkinson
extends her celebratory
greeting



Traditional Filipino dancers



The dancers at rest

ACAPAA Congratulates Dr. H. Sook Wilkinson

Receives 2008 Overseas Korean Medal of Honor Award



(Translated from a Chicago Korea Times newspaper article)

Drs. Young-Kee Kim and Hei Sook (Park) Wilkinson, 2008 Overseas Koreans Medal of Honor Awards Ceremony.

The Awards Ceremony for 2008 Overseas Koreans Medal of Honor was held on November 10th at the Korean Consulate General in downtown Chicago. The annual awards are presented to those Koreans who have made significant contributions that benefit the community at large, and thereby promote Korea. The candidates for the awards are recommended to the Korean government by the consulate. Through a rigorous evaluation process, then the Korean government makes the final decision. In the Mid-West, Dr. Young-Kee Kim was selected to receive the People's Medal of Honor and Dr. Hei Sook (Park) Wilkinson, the Presidential Medal of Honor.

Dr. Kim is the Deputy Director of the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Batavia, IL and is an internationally renowned particle physicist who teaches at University of Chicago. Dr. Wilkinson is a clinical psychologist at William Beaumont Hospital in Michigan and is the appointed Chairperson of the Michigan Governor's Advisory Council on Asian Pacific American Affairs. She is also a member of National Unification Advisory Council (NUAC) appointed by the President of the Republic of Korea.

Honorable Korean Consul General (Chicago) Sunghwan Son said in his congratulatory remarks, "Every year, we award Koreans who make major contributions to the Korean and the American communities. We're extremely proud of the two awardees today. Dr. Kim has made a glorious contribution to the field of science, and Dr. Park has dedicated more than 30 years of her life to Korean adoptees and their families, as well as serving the Asian American community to promote their interests and civil rights."

